

RECOGNIZING D. M. BOWMAN'S 60
YEARS IN BUSINESS

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize D. M. Bowman, Inc., a transportation and logistics company based in Williamsport, Maryland. This company has used innovation and work ethic to make its mark on the trucking world. In 1996, D. M. Bowman Founder and Chairman Don Bowman designated this week as Driver Appreciation Week, an annual event celebrating the hard work drivers do every day. This year, I am honored to highlight the achievements of his incredible company and recognize our nation's truck drivers, who provide all Americans a great service.

This year, D. M. Bowman is celebrating 60 years in business. Throughout this time, the company has been an invaluable source of economic development and jobs for Maryland's Sixth District. Although the business began as a one-man operation, due to Don Bowman's determination and expertise, it quickly began to pick up speed. Now, D. M. Bowman has an exceptional fleet of 382 power units and 8 terminals on the east coast.

As the company grew, so did its outreach efforts. Today, D. M. Bowman works with Hagerstown Community College Driving School to help individuals who obtain their commercial driver's licenses find new career opportunities.

On behalf of the residents of Maryland's Sixth Congressional District, I thank D. M. Bowman and its dedicated team for all that they have done for our community and recognize the 112,900 people employed by the trucking industry in our great state.

RECOGNIZING DISTINGUISHED
PUBLIC SERVANT, MARGOT
BESTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished public servant, Margot Bester, who, after nearly 25 years of dedicated service to the American people, is retiring from her position as Principal Deputy Chief Counsel at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

Ms. Bester has served as second in command of the Office of Chief Counsel since the months following the creation of TSA, a component of the Department of Homeland Security created by Congress to ensure transportation security for our nation in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks which occurred 18 years ago today.

In coordination with the Chief Counsel, Ms. Bester has overseen the legal work of the attorneys at TSA and has been primarily responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Office of Chief Counsel.

Ms. Bester joined the TSA Office of Chief Counsel in April 2002. In August of that year, she was selected by Admiral James Loy, then Under Secretary of Transportation for Security,

to represent TSA in its transition to DHS. She also served as the transportation security advisor to DHS Under Secretary Asa Hutchinson. In recognition of her service to the newly formed Department, Ms. Bester received the Department of Homeland Security "Day One" Award.

Early in her career, she was Director of Regulatory Relations with the United States Telephone Association and an attorney with the Federal Communications Commission.

A first-generation American, Ms. Bester was born in Buffalo, NY, to parents that had been granted asylum in our country after surviving the atrocities of the Second World War. Love of country and the importance of being an active, engaged citizen were ingrained at a young age. Ms. Bester has often spoken of the great honor of serving, protecting, and giving back to our nation, which provided opportunity and security for her family during dire circumstances.

Her passion for public service is second only to her dedication to her family. Of her many accomplishments, Ms. Bester is most proud as a mother to her sons, Brian and Eric, and as grandmother to Chase and Ava.

After spending a career protecting our Nation's transportation security, Ms. Bester now heads to an extremely well-deserved retirement from Federal service. I ask my colleagues to join me in sending the very best wishes and congratulations of the House as well as our thanks for her remarkable career and her notable service to our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM THOMAS,
RECIPIENT OF THE 2019 COMMUNITY
SERVICE AWARD FROM
THE LUZERNE COUNTY SPORTS
HALL OF FAME

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA Executive Director Jim Thomas. Jim received the 2019 Community Service Award from the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame at the 35th annual dinner on August 11, 2019 for his leadership and service to the greater Wilkes-Barre area.

Each year, the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame honors those who have brought fame and recognition to the state of Pennsylvania through their outstanding achievements and contributions in athletic endeavors.

Throughout his career, Jim has been dedicated to serving the Luzerne County community in a variety of roles. Following graduation from the Pennsylvania State University, University Park with a Bachelor of Science in Parks and Recreation, Jim immediately put his knowledge to action by serving as the Seasonal YMCA Summer Camp Director for Camp Kresge in White Haven, Pennsylvania. Later, Jim became the Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA Youth Director. He established a local indoor premier soccer program with more than two-thousand participants, while also working with the Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources to start a YMCA program located in a state park.

From June 1986 to April 1994, Jim served as the Wilkes-Barre YMCA Program Execu-

tive, where he was responsible for membership and program development. Since May 1994, Jim has served as the Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA Executive Director, successfully spearheading numerous campaigns and raising millions of dollars to improve facilities of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA and to offer access opportunities to low income families. He also led effort to construct five new facilities at Camp Kresge and rebuild existing infrastructure to improve the camp for future generations.

Jim is also a member of numerous associations and societies, including the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society, the Pennsylvania State University Recreation and Parks Society, the Kiwanis Club of Wilkes-Barre, the Riverfront Parks Association, the Downtown Business Association, and the State Public Policy Committee.

It is an honor to join with the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame in recognizing Jim's lifetime of effort. May his hard work and dedication to the community continue to have a lasting impact on the greater Wilkes-Barre area.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. STEVEN
S. SMITH

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Mr. Steven S. Smith, who is retiring from the Drug Enforcement Administration, after 24 years of law enforcement service, culminating as Supervisory Special Agent assigned to the Pharmaceutical Investigations Section as the Group Supervisor for Mobile Diversion Team One (MDT-1) based in Springfield, Virginia.

Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Steven Smith entered on duty with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) on March 15, 1995 in Miami, Florida. SSA Smith was first assigned to the Los Angeles Field Division. During his fifteen-year tenure in Los Angeles, then Special Agent (SA) Smith worked in enforcement groups targeting methamphetamine production and trafficking, and Asian heroin distribution. Working in a multi-agency environment at the Southern California Drug Task Force and LAX Group Three, SA Smith coordinated surveillance operations with over a dozen different law enforcement agencies while supporting Title III investigations. While investigating narcotics and money couriers passing through LAX airport, SA Smith's intelligence background in both law enforcement and the military enabled him to rapidly link detained suspects to active federal, state, and local criminal investigations around the country and build partnerships which enhanced the quality of the LAX-G3 cases.

In August 2010, SA Smith transferred to the Las Vegas District Office as a member of the Tactical Diversion Squad (TDS). While assigned to the Las Vegas TDS, SA Smith led an investigation targeting a doctor and an international organized crime ring responsible for the distribution of tens of thousands of prescription tablets. This investigation resulted in the seizure of over 8000 d.u. of oxycodone, \$58,000 U.S. currency, and evidence identifying a local pharmacy as a significant